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## NOVAMET Executives visit Hart Materials in Wombourne

For over thirty years Hart Materials has successfully marketed products manufactured in the U.S.A. by NOVAMET Specialty Products Corporation. The close personal working relationship that has developed is the core of this partnership and regular visits between the two companies has been a key factor in establishing an excellent level of hands-on cooperation. Consequently Hart Materials were very pleased to welcome NOVAMET's President John Torbic and their European Export Sales Manager, Matt Groo to their Technology Centre in Wombourne, U.K. on 22nd and 23rd February.

NOVAMET products serve a number of important niche markets in the surface engineering industry. Their conductive nickel flakes and powders have, for over 30 years, been used to manufacture conductive coatings used in the electronic shielding market (EMC). In a totally different application area Novamet stainless steel flake has been employed in powder coating and liquid paint formulations providing attractive metallic finishes with excellent durability in aggressive environments

Dr. Tony Hart, Chairman of Hart Materials Limited comments; "It is an indicator of the strong support that we have constantly received from NOVAMET that John and Matt should have paid us the compliment of returning less than 18 months after their last visit. During this time both companies have been consolidating re-location of their operations into purpose designed facilities".

"As a consequence we are gearing up for a new increased level of business with NOVAMET, now offering exciting new products in addition to their traditional range. In particular, they have radically re-shaped their manufacturing process for Nickel-Coated Graphite enabling them to offer a wider range of products made to an exceptional level of reproducibility and, in addition, to fine tune these products to suit the specific customer requirements. We are looking forward to working alongside NOVAMET to fulfil requirements of our existing users and the challenge of enlarging our customer base across Europe."





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## Environment, Health & Safety by Malcolm Griffiths

First an apology: The figure quoted in the last edition, for fatalities at Work, was a misprint - there were 142 deaths in 2015, 16 of which were in the manufacturing sector. The other, vastly larger figure, estimated for those dying each year from chronic effects related to their work, still stands.

Are your risk assessments on Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) suitable, sufficient and regularly reviewed? Are you sure? For example: if operators working with potentially hazardous dust, fumes or vapours follow the modern trend for beards or 'designer stubble,' disposable dust or vapour masks are considered inadequate. RPE of that type cannot form an airtight seal with the skin.

Alternatively, men with facial hair need to wear full-face masks - either air-fed or with filters. Those types need to be regularly inspected and maintained, with records kept of those actions.

With the HSE's emphasis on Wellbeing at the moment, HSE inspectors are particularly sharp on this issue. Last week, one inspector who was visiting a Company in West Bromwich, noted construction activities on another site, next door. The inspector made a spot check and gave them 24 hours to make sure that all those wearing disposable masks were clean shaven, or that he would stop further work on the site.

And remember: in such circumstances there is a strong possibility that the HSE might impose a Fee For Intervention (FFI) too. Fees in the order of £1,500 per day are apparently quite common.

For further details visit  
[www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hse48.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hse48.pdf)

## Metal Finishing Laboratory Technician Wanted

Twickenham Plating Group Ltd (TPG) provides specialist technical plating services for the electronics, telecommunication, aerospace, automotive and military industries. The company offers a full range of technically advanced finishes using diverse methods of application such as Vat, Barrel, Rack and Reel to Reel plating. TPG are able to integrate sophisticated masking technologies for selective plating and new advancements in chemical treatment to provide cost effective solutions to customers.



### Job Description

Support the laboratory by carrying out analysis, research and investigations to ensure all chemistry used within the factory is operating within the specified parameters and to troubleshoot when required.

### Specific Duties

- Collecting and analysing plating solution samples
- Preparing plating solutions
- Recording and presenting analysis data
- Ordering and controlling chemical stock
- Managing the disposal of chemicals and waste products safely and environmentally friendly
- Ensuring that all equipment is clean and in a good working order

### Desired Skills

- Good practical and technical skills
- Ability to plan your own workload
- Awareness of health and safety issues
- Accuracy and attention to details
- Good communication skills
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CV to: [info@twickenham.co.uk](mailto:info@twickenham.co.uk)  
Closing date: 22nd April 2016 • No agencies

## The Presidents Column

I do hope everyone likes the new style and layout of IMFormation, and find that the increased content and information is of benefit. I would like to express my thanks to the editorial team for the hard work they have put in to bringing our news report to this new standard.

One of the things I'm aware of is that we are sometimes poor in passing on information to our members of the work that I, and members of your board, do on behalf of the Institute and ultimately you the members. I have therefore decided a column from the President outlining the activities I and the board have been up to should be included in IMFormation.

2016 to date has been a busy year for me personally, not only on IMF business but for my job as well. I think everyone will remember I still work part time in a "mentoring" role for Indestructible, and this year to date I have represented them at both the maintenance, repair and overhaul show in Dubai, and at the Singapore Air Show: not a bad job! However, this has not stopped me being involved in meetings and committees on behalf of our Institute.

Everyone will be aware of, and be concerned about the REACH regulations. I have been involved, both for the Institute and Indestructible, in monitoring and managing necessary requirements to make sure the UK surface engineering industries keeps abreast of these regulations.

You may not be aware of an industry grouping called the Cross Sector Group. This came into being about 4 years ago, and was spawned from an aerospace group which had formed to monitor the effects of REACH. The group now covers a wide sphere of interested industrial groups, still including aerospace, but now encompassing automotive, surface finishing, engineering and even the retail sector. The group have direct access into Government, and representatives from BIS; DEFRA and the HSE attend meetings, and take back industry concerns which are fed back to the European Commission. Currently our concerns are with the 2018 registration deadline for small volume chemicals. The next meeting is on March 24th, which I am attending, so will be able to report back in my next column.

Whilst considering Europe, the Institute are members of CETS (the European Committee for Surface Treatments) and we are represented there by Dr Paul Lansdell, our immediate past president. Meetings are held annually at different venues throughout Europe, the next meeting being in April in Germany. We expect update reports on a breakfast meeting held at the European Parliament and of a number of meetings concerning the authorisation of chromium compounds. No doubt we can report on these in the next issue.

You will remember it was always a goal of mine to cooperate more closely with other Institutes and technical associations linked to surface engineering and finishing. Over the last year, I have been liaising with the chairman of the SED group of IOM3, David Rickerby, and again working with other interested associations and groups concerned about the future of surface engineering in the UK, have set up a working group with the goal of attracting youngsters to join our industries. The work currently being done in Scotland by Bill Kenny, and in Ireland by Fred Andrews and the Irish committee of introducing the industry to science students at schools could be an ideal way to attract interest, and I will be in touch with both Bill and Fred to see how this could be expanded across the rest of the U.K.

On a final note, I had the honour to represent the IMF at the recent celebration of 50 years of Tribology. This took the form of a reception, held in the picture gallery at Buckingham Palace, hosted by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh. It was a great honour and pleasure to meet with him, as he made the effort to meet with all those present. This was indeed a fine affair where the champagne flowed and much networking occurred.

I do hope you have found these notes interesting and informative; please excuse any glaring errors as I'm writing these whilst sat on a sun-bed in Tenerife; our administration manager Helen is a bit of a "slave driver" but I understand print deadlines need to be met!

- Graham Armstrong




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Tel: 0121 622 7387  
Email: david@materialsfinishing.org

### Exam Results January 2016

#### *Foundation Certificate studied by Distance Learning Examination held 20th January 2016*

Jonathan Walker *	Ashton & Moore
Ryan Bolland	Eaton Ltd
Leslie Wallace *	Thomas Keating Ltd
Azad Yousaf *	Schloetter Co Ltd
Morgan Taylor #	Schloetter Co Ltd
James Kemp *	Harwin plc
Chris Botting #	Marshall Aerospace
Lee Leighton *	Marshall Aerospace

#### *Foundation Certificate studied by Tutored Courses at Poeton Industries Examination held 15th January 2016*

Nick Baker #	Poeton Industries
Stephen Evans	Poeton Industries
Daniel Hutchings *	Poeton Industries
Lucie Woodley *	Poeton Industries

#### *Technician Module studied by Distance Learning Examination held 19th January 2016*

<b>Electroplating Practice</b>	
Matthew Solly	Eaton Aerospace
<b>Principles of Electroplating</b>	
James Blick	Wheelabrator Impact
<b>Materials Science</b>	
Ruben Camacho Burgos	BJS Co
Lee Saunders	BMW
<b>EHS</b>	
David Bennett	Russell Laboratories
Emma Greenway	Indestructible Paint
Carson Leslie	Indestructible Paint
Simon Greenway *	Indestructible Paint
John Dunn	TDM Technologies

\* Pass with Merit # Pass with Distinction

## Welcome New Members

### *Affiliate*

Phil Monk  
Robert Arnold  
Robert Crosskill  
Anna Czech Morgan  
Oliver Davies DMS  
Parnam Jirh DMS  
Neil White  
Emily Liston  
Harley-James Ross  
George Todd  
David Newport  
Ian Mattox  
Nigel Ridguard  
Karandeep Sembi  
James Thornhill  
Joseph Smith  
Wade O'Sullivan  
Alexandra Moraru  
Joshua Taylor  
Damien Upton  
Caity Weiner  
Brigita Skublickaite  
Emilian Gawrys  
Dorota Gawrys  
Andrzej Malicki  
Esther McPhee

Amphenol  
Abbey Metal Finishing  
SPS Technologies  
Advanced Materials  
Chromium Plating  
Chromium Plating  
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TDCP  
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### *Technician*

Phil Monk  
Amphenol

### *Fellow*

John Burgess  
Agas Electronic Materials

### *Member*

David Dibble




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